

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	25X1
SUBJECT	1. <u>The Taegliche Rundschau</u> 2. <u>VOKS Representative in East Berlin</u>	DATE DISTR.	20 May 1955
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1. Although the eventual fate of the Taegliche Rundschau is undecided, there are no tangible signs that it will be discontinued in the near future. From time to time the subject apparently is discussed within the apparatus of the Soviet administration machinery in East Germany, but a decision to discontinue the paper would have to be made in Moscow. No such decision has been made.
 2. All the members of the Soviet staff of the Taegliche Rundschau are considered to be steadfast Communist Party members who will survive many changes in Soviet policy. No real personnel changes have taken place after the various striking changes in leading personnel in the USSR in recent years: the death of Stalin, the purging of Beria, and the ousting of Malenkov as Premier. In general, Malenkov's resignation has not caused great concern among the Soviet staff members, although Suldin (fnu), of the Foreign Relations Section, expressed disbelief when the first news of that event was announced by Western radio stations. On the same day when Malenkov's resignation was announced officially - 8 February 1955 - the entire Soviet staff was summoned to a special meeting to be briefed on the event and the line to be taken by editor-in-chief Sokolov (fnu), who had obtained instructions from the Soviet Embassy.
 3. It is believed that no far-reaching purge can be expected among the Soviet press elements and even among the Soviet administrative personnel in East Germany, because the Soviets feel that sudden changes would have a strong effect upon the general morale of the East Germans.
 4. The following are leading Soviet personnel of the Taegliche Rundschau:
 - a. Sokolov (fnu), editor-in-chief. He is a disciplinarian and a cold and pedantic administrator. The German employees refer to him among themselves as "Vasterchen Frost" because of the cold

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and impersonal treatment he accords them. He has recently been enforcing a strict eight-hour working day for even the high-ranking German editors.

b. Pestov (fnu), deputy editor-in-chief.

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c. Bernikov (fnu)

d. Nemchinov (fnu) is a loyal Communist Party man.

5. The representative of VOKS in East Berlin is Beluyev (fnu),

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